

Potato Creek State Park

October 2009 Activities

25601 STATE ROAD 4 NORTH LIBERTY, IN 46554
(574) 656-8186 NATURALISTS: Tim Cordell, Marie Hamstra

PLEASE NOTE: Programs are free of charge (except as noted) and open to the public after paying the park admission fee.
All programs begin promptly at scheduled times. (Eastern Time Zone)
PARENTS: an adult must accompany Children under 14.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2009 ****Prairie Harvest Weekend****



10:00 a.m. **PRESCRIBED FIRE DEMONSTRATION** – Hear a little about the planning of a prescribed prairie fire and then see some of the tools demonstrated. (weather permitting)

MEET: NATURE CENTER

11:00 a.m. **TAKE A KID MOUNTAIN BIKING DAY** - Gather for a short safety class and escorted ride of all levels by NIMBA members as we observe this national effort. Bring your bikes! HELMETS REQUIRED!

MEET: PEPPERMINT HILL

1-3 p.m. **\$FALLING FOR LEAVES CRAFTS (\$1-\$5 fee)** – Celebrate fall by creating fun fall crafts with leaves.

1:00 p.m. - Beautify a bandana by decorating it with leaf prints. (\$5)

2:00 p.m. - Decorate a bookmark with pressed leaves. (\$1)

2:30 p.m. - Create a fall greeting card using leaf prints. (\$1)



MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM

***Craft Session Fees** - Material fees are per craft supply set. There will be a limited number on some crafts. Craft tickets may be purchased in the Nature Center on Saturday, October 3 beginning at 9:00 am.*



3:00 p.m. **\$SCARECROW DECORATING CONTEST (\$10/team fee)** – Get together a team and come get creative to win a prize! There will be a limited number of scarecrows, so sign up early. Sign-up begins at 9am at Nature Center. **MEET: NATURE CENTER YARD**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009



10:00 a.m. **PRAIRIE WALK** – Come along on this easy walk to see and learn more about the tall grass prairie of the past. 1 hour.

MEET: WHISPERING WINDS PICNIC AREA

2:00 p.m. **AMERICA'S LOST LANDSCAPE: TALLGRASS PRAIRIE** - This extraordinary video takes an in depth look at the prairie ecosystem and its history. 1 hour.

MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009

10:00 a.m. **WOOLY BEARS** - It's about time for "wooly-watching." Learn a little about these fuzzy caterpillars and then create one of your own to take home.

MEET: PORTER REA CEMETERY

2:00 p.m. **OPHIDIOPHOBIA?** - Are you scared of snakes? Slither to this program in order to learn an appreciation for this creature and help you overcome your fears. Anyone who wants to will get to see one up close!

MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2009

2:00 p.m. **BEAVER TALES** – The beaver's body is awesomely adapted to its aquatic habitat! Come learn more about beavers in the park. 45 minutes.

MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM

PRAIRIE MAZE - Get a maze guide and test your skills to find your way through the maze and learn about the tall grass prairie at the same time. Guide maps are available at the Nature Center; Main Gate and Park Office. **Park at Deer Meadows Picnic Area.**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009 *****Welcome BSA Iron Horse Hikers*****

- 2:00 p.m.** **REPTILE REVIEW** - Learn a little about the reptiles of the area and then meet one up close. 30 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**
- 3:30 p.m.** **FEEDING TIME** - Stop by the nature center to watch the animals being fed! **MEET: NATURE CENTER**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009

- 2:00 p.m.** **ISPY!** - Take a closer look at some animals that use the art of hiding (camouflage) to protect them in their environments. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2009

- 7:00 p.m.** **FORESTER TO SPEAK AT FRIENDS MEETING** - Learn a little about Indiana's forests in the fall and meet your fellow park supporters. Open to all! **MEET: NATURE CENTER**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2009

- 10:00 a.m.** **FIRST HIKE TO THE SPRINGHOUSE** - Join us on the first ever hike to see the restoration of this 1800's springhouse. **MEET: PORTER-REA CEMETERY**



- 2:00 p.m.** **SPOOKTACULAR CRAFTS** - Ghosts, spiders and bats, oh my! Get ready for Halloween by decorating your home or desk with some of these fun spooky crafts. *Donations for crafts accepted.* 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

- 3:30 p.m.** **LEAF RUBBING** - Celebrate fall by making your own leaf guide to take home using this creative rubbing technique. 45 minutes **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2009

- 2:00 p.m.** **BIRD ID BASICS** - Brush up on your identification techniques as the fall migration is under way. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**



2009 Halloween Happenings

Sponsored by the Friends of Potato Creek



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009



9:30 a.m. **BATS, SPIDERS & OTHER CREEPY CRAWLIES** - Rather than scaring you today, these creatures will now amaze you! Come learn more about a few creatures of the season to impress your friends rather than scare them. 45 minutes.

MEET: Nature Center Auditorium

11:00 a.m. \$ **PUMPKIN CARVING/DECORATING CONTEST** - Get creative and either carve or paint a pumpkin in this fun contest. \$1.00 per pumpkin while supplies last.

MEET: Peppermint Hill Picnic Area



2:00 p.m. **KID AND CANINE HOWL'O'WEEN COSTUME CONTEST** - Dress up you and your pup or just yourself in your favorite Halloween garb and enter this fun costume contest! Age categories are: 1-3; 4-7; 8-11; & 12-14. 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place ribbons will be awarded for the funniest costume, most original costume, prettiest costume, and for the cutest costume in both the kid and kid/canine categories.



MEET: Peppermint Hill Shelter

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. **CAMPGROUND TRICK OR TREAT** - Camping ghouls and goblins can wander the campground in search of treats. Campers that are participating should turn on lights or be visible at your campsite to show you are participating. **FOR CAMPERS ONLY.**

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. **CAMP SITE DECORATING CONTEST** - Stroll through the campground to pick your favorite decorated site and cast your ballot at campsite #5. Winner will be announced at 8:00 p.m. at the Monster Mash dance.



6:30 p.m. **POTLUCK SUPPER** - Bring a covered dish to share and spend some time with your fellow campers and park lovers. Hot dogs & drinks provided. Sponsored by the Friends of Potato Creek.



MEET: Peppermint Hill Shelter



7:30-9 p.m. **\$MONSTER MASH DANCE** - Don't miss this spooktacularly fun family oriented evening dance and games. Costumes are optional. Adults \$1 (over 18) Kids 50 cent: Under 3 free.



MEET: Peppermint Hill Shelter

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009

2:00 p.m. **WEBS OF INTRIGUE** - Trot on over for a leftover Halloween treat and then sit back and relax as you learn about spiders in this fascinating video.

MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM



October Nature Center Hours (Eastern Time)
Saturdays: 9a-5p; Sundays: Noon-5p; Weekdays: Noon-4p